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# News Releases and other News Material

Number 9293

September 13 - September 17, 1993

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For further information about this booklet contact Charles Hobbs, editor, News Division, Office of Public Affairs, Room 406-A, U.S Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250 or call (202) 720-4026.

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Release No. 0776.93  
Mary Dixon (202) 720-4623  
Johna Pierce (202) 720-1691

## USDA SEEKS PUBLIC OPINION ON NUTRITION OBJECTIVES FOR SCHOOL MEALS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15--Do you know what your child ate for lunch today?

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Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy has announced that the department will hold four field hearings this fall to solicit public opinion about improving the nutritional quality of school meals. "As we start the new school year, we are reminded that school meals are an integral part of helping our students excel in school," Espy said. "It's important that we reduce the amount of fat and improve the overall nutrition in our school meal programs."

Espy also said that Assistant Secretary of Agriculture for Food and Consumer Services Ellen Haas will chair the four hearings. Haas, who oversees school meal programs, said, "The school lunch program touches the lives of 25 million children every day, serving lunch in 95 percent of our nation's schools. In addition, the school breakfast program serves hot breakfasts to more than five million children each morning."

The public field hearings, announced this week in the Federal Register, will all be from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the following locations:

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"Our school meal programs are a critical line of defense against poor nutrition, and we must make these meals healthier -- with less fat, less cholesterol, less salt, and with more fresh produce and more grains," said Haas. "Children who eat nutritious meals are healthier, learn better, and have fewer chronic health problems as adults."

"We are looking forward to beginning a dialogue on these issues with the American people, and we are eager to hear what they think about improving the nutrition in our school lunches," Haas said.

The department invites the public to comment on the following:

1. What are the health consequences of children's dietary patterns?
2. How can the Dietary Guidelines for Americans be used to bring about measurable nutritional improvements in school meals and children's diets?
3. What are the obstacles and opportunities in meeting the Dietary Guidelines in school meal programs?
4. What actions can the USDA, parents, school food service, food industry and other public and private organizations take to encourage the implementation of current nutrition recommendations in local schools?

Espy said that the hearings will offer the public the opportunity to comment and encouraged those who cannot attend the hearings to send written suggestions to:

### NUTRITION OBJECTIVES

Stanley C. Garnett  
Director, Child Nutrition Division  
FNS, USDA  
3101 Park Center Dr.  
Room 1007  
Alexandria, Va. 22302



Release No. 0777.93

Billy Cox (202) 720-3329  
Wayne Baggett (202) 720-2065

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The \$1.6 million donation (including ocean and overland transportation costs) will be used for direct distribution in the Russian Federation.

The donation is being provided through Feed The Children (FTC), a U.S. based private voluntary organization. The commodities will be distributed to approximately 120,000 needy children for a period of three months in a food supplemental program run by FTC in cooperation with the Russian Ministry of Education. The project will cover 14 cities throughout the Federation and it will aim at the children with deficient diets, residing in children's homes, orphanages, handicapped children's facilities and children living in large families.

The supply period of the donation is fiscal 1993.

The donation will be made under Food For Progress Act of 1985, which authorizes the donation of surplus commodities owned by USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation to developing countries.

For more information, contact James F. Keefer, FAS, (202) 720-5263.

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Commodities include 29,400 metric tons of vegetable oil and 2,200 metric tons of pork. The donation will be distributed or sold by the Russian government to help develop agricultural and economic reforms within the Russian Federation.

The United States will pay all transportation costs to deliver the commodities to Russian ports. Russia will pay for all inland transportation, handling, storage and distribution costs within the country.

The program is administered by USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service. The supply period for this donation is fiscal 1993.

For further information, contact James F. Keefer, FAS, (202) 720-5263.

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Release No. 0781.93

Clarence Steinberg (202) 720-6179  
Jerry Redding (202) 720-3310

#### **USDA SETS HEARING ON PROPOSALS TO MERGE SOUTHERN FEDERAL MILK ORDERS**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 15--The U.S. Department of Agriculture is inviting dairy farmers, milk dealers, and consumers to testify at a public hearing on proposals to merge federal milk orders in the southern United States. The hearing will begin at 1 p.m., Nov. 1, at the Holiday Inn-Perimeter Dunwoody, 4386 Chamblee-Dunwoody Rd., Atlanta, Ga., tel. (404) 457-6363.

Charles R. Brader, acting administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said the hearing addresses a proposal submitted by the dominant cooperatives in the affected area.

The proposal would merge the Georgia, Alabama-West Florida, New Orleans-Mississippi, Greater Louisiana, and the recently terminated Nashville, Tenn., federal milk marketing orders into a "Gulf States" federal milk marketing order. Another cooperative association, the Arkansas Dairy Cooperative Association, Inc., has proposed adding the Central Arkansas milk order to the merged order. A "proprietary handler" (private dairy firm) in the region has proposed adding the territory that was part of the recently terminated Memphis order to the merger as well.

Proponents of the merger contend that a larger order would provide for a more equitable sharing among producers of the higher-valued fluid milk (drinking milk) sales in what has become a common milk production and marketing area.

Proponents also contend that a merger would help resolve the problem of the region's producers not now sharing fairly in the burden of its reserve milk supplies (milk produced in excess of a market's need for fluid milk). Although each fluid milk market needs reserve supplies, there are not adequate milk manufacturing outlets in each of the current markets to handle the extra milk. Proponents say this means that producers in some of these markets carry more than their fair share of the lower returns for that excess because milk used for manufacturing is priced lower than that used for drinking.

Details of the hearing appeared as a notice in the Sept. 10 Federal Register. Copies may be obtained from Paul Hanlon, Market Administrator, P.O. Box 49025, Atlanta, Ga. 30359; Richard E. Arnold, Market Administrator, P.O. Box 701440, Tulsa, Okla. 74170-1440; or Order Formulation Branch, Dairy Division-AMS, Rm. 2968 S., P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, tel. (202) 720-6273.

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The 1993 crop loss benefits will be paid to eligible producers no later than June 1994, he said. Payments in an amount of 100 percent of each eligible claim are authorized by emergency disaster legislation signed recently by President Clinton.

Producers eligible for benefits are those who produce commercially grown 1993 program and non-program crops.

Producers whose 1993 crops are insured by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation will be eligible for payments for losses exceeding 35 percent. Producers without such insurance will be eligible for payments for losses greater than 40 percent.

The deadline for all producers participating in the 1993 farm programs to utilize the so-called "0/92" provisions has been extended to Sept. 17. Producers may modify any previously made decision regarding use of these provisions. The deadline was extended at the request of many producers who notified the USDA that for reasons beyond their control they were prevented from meeting the earlier announced deadline.

Disaster aid applications may be made at the producers' local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service county offices.

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Espy also reminded producers with quality losses for 1990, 1991 or 1992 crops, production losses for the same years because of a curly top virus condition in sugar beets, or 1993, 1994 or 1995 crop losses because of Hurricanes Andrew and Iniki or Typhoon Omar must file their disaster applications by September 17. "This is a statutory deadline for these applications," Espy said, "It cannot be administratively changed."

Producers should contact their county ASCS office for further information.



Release No. 0784.93  
Ann Matejko (202) 205-0929  
Tom Amontree (202) 720-4623

**STATES TO RECEIVE OVER \$214 MILLION IN INTERIM NATIONAL FOREST PAYMENTS**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16--Forty-one states and Puerto Rico will share interim payments totaling over \$214 million as their portion of national forest receipts collected in fiscal year 1993, F. Dale Robertson, chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service, announced today.

"We estimate these states will eventually receive over \$286 million as their total payments from national forest receipts for the year," Robertson said.

The interim payment represents 75 percent of the estimated total amount each state will receive as its share of funds collected during the year from the sale and use of a variety of national forest products and services. USDA pays any additional funds it owes the states in December, after determining the actual receipts for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30.

By law, the Forest Service pays 25 percent of the revenues it collects from timber sales, grazing, recreation, minerals, and land uses to states in which national forest lands are located. The funds are used for schools and roads. Last year, the states received total payments of more than \$323 million.

The interim payments do not reflect revenues collected from the national grasslands. National grassland receipts are calculated on a calendar year basis, beginning Jan. 1, and these funds are shared with the counties in the spring.

The largest interim payments will go to Oregon, \$94 million; California, \$35 million; Washington, \$22 million; and Idaho, \$13 million.

Interim payments and the estimated 1993 amounts for each state are listed in the following table.

**INTERIM AND ESTIMATED TOTAL STATE PAYMENTS FOR NATIONAL FOREST RECEIPTS  
(fiscal year 1993)**

	<b>Interim Payment</b>	<b>Estimated Total Payment</b>
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ALASKA	2,097,692.07	2,796,922.76
ARIZONA	4,060,469.07	5,413,958.76
ARKANSAS	1,942,690.88	2,864,901.59
CALIFORNIA* /	34,796,726.43	46,395,635.24
COLORADO	3,871,804.49	5,162,405.98
FLORIDA	1,077,750.02	1,437,000.03
GEORGIA	730,125.02	973,500.03
IDAHO	13,237,793.49	17,650,391.32

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GEORGIA	730,125.02	973,500.03
IDAHO	13,237,793.49	17,650,391.32

ILLINOIS	41,499.23	55,332.30
INDIANA	8,342.07	11,122.76
KENTUCKY	443,821.32	591,761.76
LOUISIANA	1,297,643.82	1,730,191.76
MAINE	31,818.17	42,424.23
MICHIGAN	1,329,003.55	1,772,004.73
MINNESOTA	1,982,563.34	2,643,417.79
MISSISSIPPI	3,191,343.79	4,255,125.05
MISSOURI	582,200.09	776,266.78
MONTANA	9,549,515.14	12,732,686.85
NEBRASKA	28,794.01	38,392.01
NEVADA	257,951.99	343,935.98
NEW HAMPSHIRE	466,865.69	622,487.59
NEW MEXICO	1,172,019.39	1,562,692.52
NEW YORK	166.97	1,557.60
NORTH CAROLINA	464,070.94	618,761.25
NORTH DAKOTA	71.60	95.47
OHIO	31,803.63	42,404.84
OKLAHOMA	288,913.21	401,533.23
OREGON*/	93,560,416.12	124,747,221.49
PENNSYLVANIA	3,371,096.69	4,494,795.58
SOUTH CAROLINA	963,493.72	1,321,599.02
SOUTH DAKOTA	2,584,993.49	3,446,657.98
TENNESSEE	350,183.84	466,911.78
TEXAS	2,566,606.64	3,422,142.18
UTAH	1,273,397.09	1,697,862.79
VERMONT	110,985.26	147,980.34
VIRGINIA	399,501.26	532,668.35
WASHINGTON*/	22,467,170.66	29,956,227.55
WEST VIRGINIA	864,723.84	1,152,965.12
WISCONSIN	685,048.53	913,398.04
WYOMING	1,787,836.52	2,383,782.02
PUERTO RICO	11,625.02	15,500.02
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$214,740,101.55</b>	<b>\$286,649,373.74</b>

\*/Interim payments to California, Oregon and Washington were computed under a provision of the Interior and Related Agencies 1993 Appropriations Act. Section 315 of that Act provides for payments to States for fiscal year 1993 of not less than 85% of the five-year average payments for fiscal years 1986-90 for those national forests affected by decisions on the northern spotted owl. Interim payments to these states would be lower if based solely on actual receipts.



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#### USDA MAKES CENTRAL AMERICA ELIGIBLE FOR MORE BUTTERFAT UNDER DEIP

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16--Under Secretary of Agriculture Eugene Moos today announced that Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) is eligible for 500 metric tons of butterfat under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Dairy Export Incentive Program.

Sales of butterfat will be made through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. Sales will be facilitated through the payment of bonuses of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation.

This butterfat allocation will be valid until December 31, as provided in the invitation for offers. Details of the program will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Randy Baxter, (202) 720-5540, or Larry McElvain, (202) 720-6211.



Release No. 0786.93  
Steve Lombardi (202) 720-9113  
Jacque Knight (202) 720-9113

#### ARMOUR BONELESS CANNED HAM RECALLED NATIONWIDE

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The company is recalling all 5-pound cans of "Armour Boneless/Fully Cooked Ham, Water Added" and "Swift Premium Ham, Water Added" with the code "3097," "3098," or "3099" stamped on the label. "EST. 543" appears inside the USDA inspection seal on the label. No other product is affected by the recall.

The product was distributed to retail food stores nationwide.

"Although no injuries have been reported, we urge consumers who may have purchased the suspect product to return it unopened to the place of purchase," said Dr. H. Russell Cross, administrator of USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service.

The company began recalling the product after two consumers complained about finding glass in the product.

Consumers with questions about the recall may phone the toll-free USDA Meat and Poultry Hotline at 1-800-535-4555. The hotline can be reached from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday. This number also provides access to a telecommunications device for the deaf and the hearing impaired.

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Release No. 0787.93  
Steve Lombardi (202) 720-9113  
Jacque Knight (202) 720-9113

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"Armour Beef Stew" was distributed to retail food stores nationwide.

The company is recalling all 24-oz. cans of the product stamped with the production code "H 273" followed by the letter "A," "B," "C," or "D," on the first line and the number "79" on the second line. "EST. 2AD" appears inside the USDA inspection legend on the label. The words "Pay only \$1.79" also appear on the label. No other product is affected by the recall.

"Because of the potential hazard, we strongly urge customers to avoid opening or tasting the product," said Dr. H. Russell Cross, administrator of USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service. "Although no illnesses have been reported, we urge consumers who may have purchased the suspect product to return it to the place of purchase."

USDA was notified of the problem after the company noticed swollen cans with lids that were punctured by a malfunctioning stamping machine during one shift's production.

Lid punctures could allow the entrance of spoilage microorganisms or other organisms that can cause serious forms of foodborne illness. Common symptoms of foodborne illness include the sudden onset of flu-like symptoms such as fever, chills, headache, backache, and sometimes abdominal pain and diarrhea.

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Release No. 0789.93  
Clarence Steinberg (202) 720-6179  
Jerry Redding (202) 720-3310

#### HATAMIYA NAMED ADMINISTRATOR OF USDA'S AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 -- Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy today named Lon Shoso Hatamiya administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service. "Lon Hatamiya is a superb addition to Team USDA. He brings the training of a doctor of laws and the experience of a modern farm manager and business person familiar with the complex programs the Agricultural Marketing Service administers," Espy said.

Hatamiya has been involved in various capacities with H.B. Orchards, an 1100 acre family farm in Marysville, California, since 1970, becoming involved in several parallel activities during that time. In 1991 he formed BHP Associates, Inc., a Sacramento, California, consulting firm that assists clients in developing export markets for agricultural products. Between 1987 and 1989 he was an associate in the Sacramento law firm of Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe, and was a purchasing manager at Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, Ohio between 1981 and 1983.

As AMS administrator, Hatamiya will manage and direct AMS marketing services, including commodity grading, classing and inspection for quality, commodity procurement, market news, market development. He will oversee the agency's traditional regulatory programs, including marketing agreements and orders, commodity research and promotion programs, and the laws designed to assure fair trading in the produce and seed industries.

Hatamiya also will oversee the agency's responsibilities for agricultural transportation and will guide the international technical assistance programs in which AMS is increasingly involved.

Hatamiya holds a bachelor of arts from Harvard University and M.B.A. and juris doctor degrees from the University of California in Los Angeles.

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Release No. 0790.93  
Ed Curlett (301) 436-7255  
Jerry Redding (202) 720-3310

#### USDA PROHIBITS IMPORT OF ANIMAL RUMINANT CASINGS FROM CERTAIN COUNTRIES

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17 -- The U.S. Department of Agriculture is prohibiting the importation of ruminant casings from countries where bovine spongiform encephalopathy and swine casings from countries where African swine fever exists.

"This action is necessary to prevent the introduction of these diseases into the United States," said Billy Johnson, deputy administrator of veterinary services in USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. Both bovine spongiform encephalopathy and African swine fever are foreign animal diseases that do not exist in the United States.

Animal casings are used in processed meats, such as sausage.

This action was announced in an interim rule and was published in the Federal Register Sept. 7. Consideration will be given only to comments received on or before Nov. 8.

Please send an original and three copies of your comments to Chief, Regulatory and Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, USDA, room 804, Federal Building, 6505 Belcrest Road, Hyattsville, Md. 20782. Please state that your comments refer to Docket No. 92-133-1. Comments received may be reviewed at USDA, room 1141, South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C., between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday except holidays.

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Release No. 0791.93  
Clarence Steinberg (202) 720-6179  
Jerry Redding (202) 720-3310

### **USDA INCREASES MEAT GRADING FEE**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17 -- Effective September 19, the U.S. Department of Agriculture will raise the hourly fees for its meat grading and certification services by approximately five percent.

Kenneth C. Clayton, acting administrator of USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, said the higher rates will offset costs of mandated salary and health benefit increases as well as certain administrative overhead. Under law, USDA grading programs must be self-supporting, he said.

The hourly rates will increase as follows:

- ◆ from \$34 to \$35.20 for "committment" grading, i.e., grading-hour week;
- ◆ from \$36.40 to 37.60 for "non-committment" grading, i.e., grading at less than a 40-hour week;
- ◆ from \$42.00 to \$43.20 for "premium," i.e., overtime and weekend grading; and,
- ◆ from \$68.00 to \$70.40 for holidays.

Details of the fee increases appear as a final rule in the September 17 Federal Register. Copies are available from the Meat Grading and Certification Branch, Livestock and Seed Division, AMS, USDA, Rm. 2629-S, P.O. Box 96456, Washington, D.C. 20090-6456, tel. (202) 720-1246.

USDA's meat grading and certification services are provided to packers and processors nationwide on a fee-for-service basis. Use of the service is voluntary, i.e., at the discretion of the user.

USDA provides similar services for approximately 170 other agricultural commodities.

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Release No. 0792.93  
Robert Feist (202) 720-6789

### **USDA RELEASES SWEETENER MARKET DATA REPORT FOR JUNE 1993**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17--The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation today released its Sweetener Market Data Report for May 1993.

Report totals, in short tons -- 2,000 pounds -- include:

- June 1, 1993, beginning sugar stocks -- 3,481,973.
- U.S. beet sugar production for June 1993 -- 138,177.
- U.S. cane sugar production for June 1993 -- 95,999.
- Deliveries for June 1993 -- 811,911, including deliveries for domestic human consumption -- 790,179.
- June 30, 1993, ending sugar stocks -- 3,014,231.

Copies of the Sept. 14, 1993, Sweetener Market Date report for June data are available from the Sweeteners Analysis Division, ASCS/USDA, Room 3727-S, P.O. Box 2415, Washington, DC. 20013; telephone (202) 720-3391; FAX (202) 720-8261.

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Release No. 0793.93  
Billy Cox (202) 720-3329  
Wayne Baggett (202) 720-2065

### **U.S. TO DONATE AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES TO ARMENIA AND GEORGIA**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17--The U.S. Department of Agriculture will donate approximately \$5 million worth of U.S. agricultural commodities to the American National Red Cross (ANRC), a private voluntary organization, for distribution to needy citizens in Armenia and Georgia, according to Christopher E. Goldthwait, acting general sales manager of USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

ILLINOIS	41,499.23	55,332.30
INDIANA	8,342.07	11,122.76
KENTUCKY	443,821.32	591,761.76
LOUISIANA	1,297,643.82	1,730,191.76
MAINE	31,818.17	42,424.23
MICHIGAN	1,329,003.55	1,772,004.73
MINNESOTA	1,982,563.34	2,643,417.79
MISSISSIPPI	3,191,343.79	4,255,125.05
MISSOURI	582,200.09	776,266.78
MONTANA	9,549,515.14	12,732,686.85
NEBRASKA	28,794.01	38,392.01
NEVADA	257,951.99	343,935.98
NEW HAMPSHIRE	466,865.69	622,487.59
NEW MEXICO	1,172,019.39	1,562,692.52
NEW YORK	166.97	1,557.60
NORTH CAROLINA	464,070.94	618,761.25
NORTH DAKOTA	71.60	95.47
OHIO	31,803.63	42,404.84
OKLAHOMA	288,913.21	401,533.23
OREGON*/	93,560,416.12	124,747,221.49
PENNSYLVANIA	3,371,096.69	4,494,795.58
SOUTH CAROLINA	963,493.72	1,321,599.02
SOUTH DAKOTA	2,584,993.49	3,446,657.98
TENNESSEE	350,183.84	466,911.78
TEXAS	2,566,606.64	3,422,142.18
UTAH	1,273,397.09	1,697,862.79
VERMONT	110,985.26	147,980.34
VIRGINIA	399,501.26	532,668.35
WASHINGTON*/	22,467,170.66	29,956,227.55
WEST VIRGINIA	864,723.84	1,152,965.12
WISCONSIN	685,048.53	913,398.04
WYOMING	1,787,836.52	2,383,782.02
PUERTO RICO	11,625.02	15,500.02
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$214,740,101.55</b>	<b>\$286,649,373.74</b>

\*/Interim payments to California, Oregon and Washington were computed under a provision of the Interior and Related Agencies 1993 Appropriations Act. Section 315 of that Act provides for payments to States for fiscal year 1993 of not less than 85% of the five-year average payments for fiscal years 1986-90 for those national forests affected by decisions on the northern spotted owl. Interim payments to these states would be lower if based solely on actual receipts.



Release No. 0785.93  
 Billy Cox (202) 720-3329  
 Wayne Baggett (202) 720-2065

#### USDA MAKES CENTRAL AMERICA ELIGIBLE FOR MORE BUTTERFAT UNDER DEIP

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16--Under Secretary of Agriculture Eugene Moos today announced that Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua) is eligible for 500 metric tons of butterfat under the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Dairy Export Incentive Program.

Sales of butterfat will be made through normal commercial channels at competitive world prices. Sales will be facilitated through the payment of bonuses of USDA's Commodity Credit Corporation.

This butterfat allocation will be valid until December 31, as provided in the invitation for offers. Details of the program will be issued in the near future.

For more information call Randy Baxter, (202) 720-5540, or Larry McElvain, (202) 720-6211.



Release No. 0786.93  
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Based on a consideration of the U.S. share of world exports, the current level of cotton export sales and cotton export shipments, and other relevant data, no further adjustment to this week's calculated AWP will be made.

This week's AWP and coarse count adjustment are determined as follows:

Adjusted World Price

NE Price .....	55.42
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Adjustments:

Avg. U.S. spot market location .....	11.82
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SLM 1-1/16 inch cotton .....	1.50
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Avg. U.S. location .....	0.31
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Sum of Adjustments .....	- 13.63
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Calculated AWP .....	41.79
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Further AWP adjustment .....	- 0
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ADJUSTED WORLD PRICE .....	41.79 cents/lb.
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Coarse Count Adjustment

NE Price .....	55.42
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NE Coarse Count Price .....	- 51.13
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4.29
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Adjustment to SLM 1-1/32 inch cotton .....	- 3.20
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COARSE COUNT ADJUSTMENT .....	1.09 cents/lb.
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Because the AWP is below the 1991, 1992, and 1993 base quality loan rates of 50.77, 52.35, and 52.35 cents per pound, respectively, the loan repayment rate during this period is equal to the AWP, adjusted for the specific quality and location plus applicable interest and storage charges. The AWP will continue to be used to determine the value of upland cotton that is obtained in exchange for commodity certificates.

Because the AWP is below the 1993-crop loan rate, cash loan deficiency payments (LDPs) will be paid to eligible producers who agree to forgo obtaining a price support loan with respect to the 1993 crop. The payment rate is equal to the difference between the loan rate and the AWP. Producers are allowed to obtain an LDP on a bale-by-bale basis.

The USNE price has not exceeded the NE price by more than 1.25 cents per pound for four consecutive weeks and the AWP has not exceeded 130 percent of the 1993 crop year base quality loan rate in any week of the 4-week period. As a result, the user marketing certificate payment rate is 0 cents per pound. This rate is applicable during the Friday through Thursday period for bales opened by domestic users and for cotton contracts entered into by exporters for delivery prior to Sept. 30, 1994. Relevant data are summarized below:

Week	Period Ending	For the		User Marketing	
		USNE Price	NE Price	Certificate Payment Rate	cents/lb
1	Aug. 26, 1993	56.45	55.19	0	
2	Sept. 2, 1993	56.13	55.00	0	
3	Sept. 9, 1993	56.40	54.99	0	
4	Sept. 16, 1993	58.10	55.42	0	

Next week's AWP, CCA and user marketing certificate payment rate will be announced on Thursday, Sept 23.



